

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Reena Kuyper, Reg. No. 33,830 on October, 30 2008.
3. Amend the claims as follow:
 - 1-28. (Canceled)
 29. (Currently Amended) A method of performing context switching in an portable processing electronic device, the method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving a first user request to perform a context switch from a currently executing first program on the portable processing electronic device;
 - displaying a task switching menu listing only ones of a plurality of programs installed on the portable processing electronic device that are useful or user selected to execute based at least partly on the first program;
 - receiving a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs;
 - storing a program state when the first user request was received of the first program into a first context packet;
 - terminating execution of the first program;
 - executing the selected one of the plurality of programs as a second program; and
 - upon receiving a second user request, suspending or terminating the execution of the

second program and resuming execution of the first program based on the first context packet.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the task switching menu is a pull-down menu.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of:
after terminating execution of the first program, releasing temporary memory used by the first program.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of:
restoring a stored program state of the selected one of the displayed useful or user-entered ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device from a second context packet before executing the selected one of the displayed useful ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of:
receiving a second user request to perform a context switch on the ~~portable processing electronic~~ device to cause the first program to be executed;
storing a program state of the selected one of the displayed useful ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing electronic~~ device;
terminating execution of the selected one of the displayed useful ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing electronic~~ device;
restoring the program state of the first using the first context packet; and
executing the first program with the restored program state.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of:

executing a non-multitasking operating system on the ~~portable processing~~
electronic device.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein indications of the ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device that are useful to execute are coded into applications.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein a context packet control panel permits the user to manage an amount of memory used by the context packets.

38. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ portable processing electronic device comprising:

- at least one processor;
- a display device;
- an input device;
- a memory; and
- a bus connecting the processor/s, the display device, the input device, and the memory, wherein the memory includes a plurality of instructions for that at least one processor to cause the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device to be configured to:

- receive a user request to perform a context switch from a currently executing first program on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device,
- display a task switching menu listing only ones of a plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device that are useful or user selected to execute based on the first program,

receive a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs, store a program state when the ~~first~~ user request was received of a first currently executing program into a first context packet,

terminate execution of the first program;

execute the selected one of the plurality of programs as a second program, and

upon receiving a second user request, suspend or terminate the execution of the second program, storing the second program's state into a second context packet and resume execution of a previously executed program based on the associated context packet or starting executing another program through the above task switching menu.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the task switching menu is a pull-down menu.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to:

after terminating execution of the first program, release temporary memory used by the first program.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to:

restore a stored program state of the selected one of the displayed useful ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device from a second context packet before executing the selected one of the displayed useful or user-selected ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device.

42. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to:

- receive a second user request to perform a context switch on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device to cause the first program to be executed;
- store a program state of the selected one of the displayed useful or user-selected ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device;
- terminate execution of the selected one of the displayed useful ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device;
- restore the program state of the first program using the first context packet; and
- execute the first program with the restored program state.

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to execute a non-multitasking operating system.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to:

- permit the user, via a context packet control panel, to manage an amount of memory used by the context packets.

46. (Currently Amended) An ~~portable processing~~ electronic device comprising:

- means for receiving a first user request to perform a context switch from a currently executing first program on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device;
- means for displaying a task switching menu listing only ones of a plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device that are useful or user selected to execute based at least partly on ~~[[]]~~ the first program;
- means for receiving a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs;

means for storing a program state when the first user request was received of the first program into a first context packet;

means for terminating execution of the first program;

means for executing the selected one of the plurality of programs as a second program; and

means for, upon receiving a secured user request, storing a program state of the second program as a second context packet and suspending or terminating the execution of the second program and resuming execution of a previously executed program based on the associated context packet or starting executing another program through the above task switching menu.

47. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, wherein the task switching menu is a pull-down menu.

48. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, further comprising:

means for releasing temporary memory used by the first program.

49. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, further comprising:

means for restoring a stored program state of the selected one of the displayed useful or user selected ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device from a second context packet before executing the selected one of the displayed useful or user selected ones of the plurality of programs installed on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device.

50. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, further comprising:

means for receiving a second user request to perform a context switch on the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device and causing the first program to be executed;

means for storing a program state of the second program as a context packet;

means for terminating execution of the second program;

means for executing and returning a previously executed program to a previous state using the associated context packet or starting executing another program through the above task switching menu.

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is configured to execute a non-multitasking operating system.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, further comprising:

means for permitting the user to manage an amount of memory used by the context packets.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

providing a context packet control panel to permit the user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets.

55. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 38, wherein the ~~portable processing~~ electronic device is further configured to:

provide a context packet control panel to permit the user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets.

56. (Currently Amended) The ~~portable processing~~ electronic device of claim 46, further comprising:

means for providing a context packet control panel to permit the user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets.

57. (Previously Presented) A method of performing context switching in an electronic device, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving a first user request to perform a context switch from a currently executing first program on the electronic device;

- displaying a task switching menu listing only ones of a plurality of programs installed on the electronic device that are useful to execute based at least partly on the first program;

- receiving a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs;

- storing a program state associated with a display status when the first user request was received of the first program into a first context packet;

- terminating execution of the first program;

- releasing temporary memory used by the first program;

- executing the selected one of the plurality of programs; and

- upon receiving a second user request, terminating the execution of the selected program and resuming execution of the first program with the associated display status based on the context packet.

58. (Previously Presented) An electronic device comprising:

- at least one processor;

- a display device;

- an input device;

- a memory; and

- a bus connecting the at least one processor, the display device, the input device, and the memory, wherein the memory includes a plurality of instructions for that at least one processor to cause the electronic device to be configured to:

- receive a first user request to perform a context switch from a currently executing first program on the electronic device,

- display a task switching menu listing only ones of a plurality of programs installed on the electronic device that are useful to execute based on the first program,

receive a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs,
store a program state associated with a display status when the first user request was received of a first currently executing program into a first context packet,
terminate execution of the first program,
releasing temporary memory used by the first program.
execute the selected one of the plurality of programs, and
upon receiving a second user request, suspend or terminate the execution of the selected program and resume execution of the first program with the associated display status based on the content packet.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:
5. As to claims 46-51, 53 and 56, the various means are interpreted in light of the specification as hardware and/or combination of hardware and software (i.e. software executing in a hardware environment) for performing the various functions.
6. The prior art of record does not expressly teach or render obvious, in the context of the claims taken as a whole, the invention as recited in independent claims 29, 38, 46, 57 and 58.
7. Receiving a first user request to perform a task switch from a currently executing first program on an electronic device, displaying a task switching menu listing a plurality of programs installed on the electronic device that are useful to execute based at least partly on a currently executing program, receiving a selection from the user of one of the plurality of programs, executing the selected one of a plurality of programs as a second program was uncovered in U.S.

Patent 5,796,397. Storing a program state of a context switch out first program based on a user request into a first context packet, terminating execution of the first program, executing second program and upon receiving a second user request, suspending the execution of the second program and resuming execution of the first program based on the context packet was uncovered in U.S. Patent 6,757,365. The references taken alone or in combination does not expressly teach or render obvious, the capability of resuming a previously context switched out and subsequently terminated (first) program by restoring its corresponding context packet taken as a whole as recited in independent claims 29, 38, 46, 57 and 58.

6. Neither a reference uncovered that would have provided a basis of evidence for asserting a motivation, nor one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, knowing the teaching of the prior arts of record would have combined them to arrived at the present invention as recited in the context of independent claims 29, 38, 46, 57 and 58 as a whole.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qing-Yuan Wu whose telephone number is (571)272-3776. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-6:00pm Monday-Thursday and alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Meng Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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